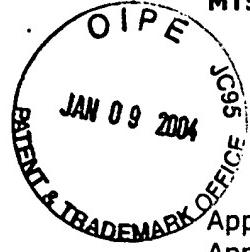


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appn. No: 10/029,425
Applicant: M. Oshima et al.
Filed: December 7, 2001
Title: MARK FORMING APPARATUS, METHOD OF FORMING LASER MARK ON OPTICAL DISK, REPRODUCING APPARATUS, OPTICAL DISK AND METHOD OF PRODUCING OPTICAL DISK
TC/A.U.: 2134
Confirmation: 8994
Examiner: P. E. Callahan

SUPPLEMENTAL
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

JAN 13 2004

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO 1449 (RP) submitted herewith. A copy of each of the listed references is also enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

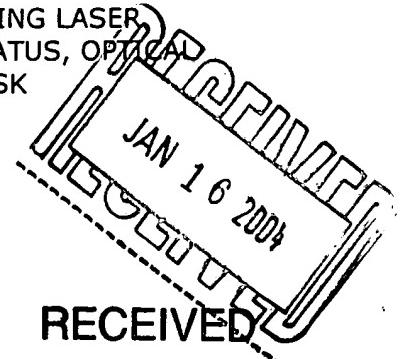
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

The following Japanese reference is not in the English language:

- 1) 04-338872

Reference 1) includes an English language abstract.

More than three months have elapsed since the filing of the above-referenced application and a first (non-Final) Official Action has been received. No Final Action or Notice of Allowance has yet been received and it is presumed that



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none has yet been mailed. Accordingly, the required fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is provided herewith.

The enclosed European Office Action also cites NL-A-9101358, which was already cited in the original prosecution.

STATEMENT

The undersigned hereby states that Reference EP 0549488 disclosed in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication (i.e., European Office Action) from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Allan Ratner, Reg. No. 19,717
Attorney for Applicants

AR/fp

Enclosures: PTO Form 1449
Copies of (#9) References
Copy of European Office Action
Check

Dated: May 23, 2003

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